

HEALTH CARE BENEFITS FOR CHILDREN OF VIETNAM VETERANS

CHAPTER: 2

SECTION: 1

TITLE: PREAUTHORIZATION

AUTHORITY: 38 CFR 17.902

I. POLICY

A. The following services and supplies specifically require authorization in advance:

1. dental services,
2. durable medical equipment (in excess of \$300.00),
3. mental health services,
4. substance abuse treatment,
5. training of family members,
6. transplantation services, and
7. travel (other than mileage for privately owned automobiles for local travel) to include attendant services.

B. Preauthorization may be provided when the care/treatment/service is:

1. a covered benefit,
2. medically necessary and appropriate, and
3. for the treatment of the covered condition or associated medical conditions.

C. When preauthorization has not been obtained, the following guidelines will be applied:

1. Authorization is to be requested within 72 hours of treatment for services that normally require preauthorization but were provided on an emergent basis.
2. In all other cases, documentation will be reviewed retrospectively to determine if the criteria for authorization in B (above) have been met.

II. POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

A. Requests for preauthorization are to be made to the Health Administration Center by mail, telephone, or FAX.

B. The following information is required for all preauthorization requests:

1. beneficiary's name,
2. beneficiary's Social Security Number (SSN),
3. description of service requested to include procedure and diagnosis codes,
4. medical justification for services requested including relationship of the medical service to the covered condition,
5. estimated cost (if known),
6. name, address, and telephone number of the provider who will actually furnish the requested services,
7. the anticipated date(s) of medical service, and
8. veteran's name and Social Security Number (SSN).

C. Preauthorization is not required for health care services and supplies that are not listed in Policy, A.

END OF POLICY

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